Promoting British Values Policy

Harvington C of E First and Nursery School

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Governors Responsibility: Safeguarding

Our 'Outstanding' school (SIAMS 2023) has deeply embedded vision and values which ebb and flow deeply within our policies, provision and practice.

We are fully committed to the DfE requirement that the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs should be promoted.

Our SMSC has been judged outstanding within our most recent inspections, confirming our belief that we have been promoting the values successfully in a range of ways and these are embedded throughout the school.



Democracy:



Debating is central to many aspects of our curriculum with pupils developing skills in listening, responding and offering opinions in a well organised and respectful manner. Pupils understand that people hold different views, opinions and beliefs which may not be fully understood but will be tolerated and respected.

"Pupils have a strong voice in the school" (SIAMS June 2015) with many opportunities to join groups as representatives of their class and school. Pupils are elected democratically by their peers who identify the skills required to represent them most successfully.

Groups meet regularly with clearly focussed agendas where pupils learn that they can influence future developments in their 'specialist' areas.

Pupil Parliament: Begin their 'election campaign' by submitting a formal application for all 'official' roles (e.g. Learning, Online Safety, Sports..) which are shortlisted and appointed by KS2 staff, matching skills/ interests to the roles. Presentations are given by those applying for 'Prime Minister' and his/ her deputy. These are reviewed by KS2 pupils who vote for the candidate they feel will represent them to the best of their ability.

Sunshine group: Our Christian Character group who plan/ lead worship and secure developments within aspects related to our church school identity.

Eco Committee: Are now working towards renewing their prized 'green flag' for their commitments towards environmental awareness within school.

Playground mediators: Support playtime behaviours and help our youngest children become integrated into school life.

Year 5 pupils also take on other key roles in school such as 'Assembly Angels', lunchtime 'table leaders', ICT 'technicians', fruit and milk delivery and resource managers in classrooms.

All groups contribute significantly to school developments and are so keen and confident that they take the leading roles, with adults offering support and guidance. .

We regularly self-evaluate and seek the views of our parents and pupils on a range of issues. Parents are asked their opinions on learning, safeguarding, leadership and whether their child enjoys school.



The rule of law



The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, school or country are consistently reinforced at Harvington.

Pupils are taught from an early age the rules, vision and values of the school. Pupils are taught the reasons behind rules and laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken.

Our six 'Core Values': Truthfulness, Friendship, Respect, Forgiveness, Trust and Perseverance encompass our expectations which enable our community to develop as responsible and pleasant citizens.

Pupils learn that breaking the laws of the class or school has negative consequences. They also learn that following rules and behaving well and with respect for others is rewarded through numerous systems such as praise, merits, dojos, stickers, certificates. Pupils have many opportunities to reflect on their behaviours and actions.

There are also much sought after whole school awards such as the Harvington Pig (for perseverance) Harvey Hedgehog (for trust), the Monkey (for truthfulness), the Lion for respect, the Fox for friendship and the Teddy (for forgiveness).

What the children say: *"Jesus is always with us, helping us along on our journey in life".*

Attendance at Harvington has been above 96% for the past five years showing that pupils and parents enjoy being part of a community where successes are celebrated at every opportunity, friendships are central to our ethos and mistakes are valued as learning opportunities. Pupils learn that forgiveness and support to make amends are always available where others have been hurt or upset and our close working relationships with families enable our exclusions to be reduced to a minimum. We have regular visits from our local community police officers and health services as well as many community visitors who reinforce these messages.

Individual liberty

At Harvington, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. Our children understand that they have rights and freedoms as a member of Modern Britain.

From the moment pupils arrive in the Foundation Stage and throughout their school journey pupils develop the knowledge, skills, attitudes independence and confidence to make informed choices, through a safe environment and an empowering education.

Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to do this safely, for example through our work in PSHE, circle times, class discussions and Online Safety days.

Harvington has a robust anti-bullying culture (pupils define it as a 'telling school') and clear, consistently enforced behaviour policies in place.

Older pupils are expected to model appropriate behaviours to younger pupils and support their growth within Harvington expectations. Within their key roles they have many opportunities to share what they have learned about 'right' and 'wrong'.

Forest School, sporting events, cluster/ county events and clubs all support pupils to become confident, thoughtful members of our community.



Mutual Respect and Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs



Mutual respect and empathy lie at the heart of our Values. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community treat each other with respect.

Our pupils understand that there are many faiths represented in modern Britain and an increasing amount in our community too. We learn about the major world faiths in line with the requirements of the Worcestershire SACRE to foster an understanding and acceptance of the beliefs of others.

Our SIAMS report (June 2015) commented *"Through the rich and varied curriculum, strong links are made with the school's Christian values, with the result that RE has a significant impact on the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all pupils at the school."*

Harvington provides annual opportunities for the children to visit places of significant cultural interest and places of worship and we also regularly welcome visitors from a range of communities and traditions into our school. Our curriculum enables our values and commitments to be threaded throughout pupils' learning experiences in a holistic manner so that learning becomes contextualised.

Trips, themes and visitors which support the embedding of British Values:
KS1: Church/Cathedral visits, Theme work-Royal Family KS2: Celebration theme. Pupil Parliament visit. Hindu Temple, Synagogue, WW2 visitors from the community, Mosque visit

Some of the opportunities which we use to heighten the whole school focus on different aspects of SMSC and British Values:
Autumn: Harvest Festival. Economic awareness (KS2). Introduction of our school charity. Remembrance service. Advent service. Children in need. Shoebox appeal, Advent service. Christmas carol service, Christmas production.
Spring: Ash Wednesday service. Year Five residential. World book day. Multi-cultural day. Easter service.
Summer: Cameo teas, Cluster forest school. School picnic. KS2 Show.
Online-Safety also has a focus day on the first week of each half term.

Through our commitment to developing these values in our pupils we are supporting them to:

- Understand how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process.
- Appreciate that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens and is essential for their wellbeing and safety.
- Understand that there is a separation of power between the executive and the judiciary and that while some public bodies such as the police and the army can be held to account through Parliament, others such as courts maintain independence.
- Understand that the freedom to choose or hold different faiths and beliefs is protected in law.
- Accept that other people having different faiths or beliefs to themselves (or having none) should be accepted and tolerated and should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour.
- Understand the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination.
- Develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence.
- Know right from wrong and respect the civil and criminal law of England.
- Accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative and understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of the school and to society more widely.
- Acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in England.
- Further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by acquiring an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures.
- Show respect for other people.
- Show respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic processes, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England.